

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (currently amended) A device for connecting bar ends, the device comprising:

a pipe section for receiving ~~bars~~ bar ends of bars to be connected;

clamping elements each having an outer thread;

wherein the pipe section has threaded bores in which the clamping elements are secured by being screwed in;

wherein the clamping elements are arranged in a first row and a second row on the same side of the pipe section relative to a circumference of the pipe section;

wherein the clamping elements of the first row are staggered relative to the clamping elements of the second row in a longitudinal direction of the pipe section.

2. (currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the clamping elements have ends for applying a clamping force on ~~facing the~~ bar ends and wherein the ends of the clamping elements apply the clamping force act in different directions, respectively onto the bar ends.

3. (original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the threaded bores and the clamping elements of the first row have first longitudinal axes and wherein the threaded bores and the clamping elements of the second row have second longitudinal axes, wherein the first and second longitudinal axes are arranged at an angle (α) of $\leq 60^\circ$ relative to one another.

4. (original) The device according to claim 3, wherein the angle (α) is approximately 30° .

5. (original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the threaded bores and the clamping elements of the first row have first longitudinal axes and wherein the threaded bores and the clamping elements of the second row have second longitudinal axes, wherein the first and second longitudinal axes are at least approximately parallel to one another and are positioned in a plane laterally displaced relative to a diameter of the pipe section, respectively.

6. (original) The device according to claim 1, wherein a longitudinal edge of the threaded bores is positioned at least approximately on a tangent of an inner pipe

wall surface of the pipe section.

7. (original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the clamping elements of the first row each are positioned between two of the clamping elements of the second row, respectively.

8. (original) The device according to claim 1, further comprising a transverse element, arranged at least approximately at a longitudinal center of the pipe section.

9. (original) The device according to claim 8, wherein the transverse element projects diametrically through the pipe section and is a clamping pin or a groove pin.

10. (original) The device according to claim 1, wherein each section of the pipe section that receives a bar end has at least one clamping screw that, relative to the circumference of the pipe section, is positioned essentially opposite the clamping elements of the first and second rows.

11. (original) The device according to claim 1, wherein each section of the pipe section that receives a bar end has at least one transverse pin that extends at least approximately at a right angle to a longitudinal axis of the pipe section and is arranged in immediate vicinity of an inner pipe wall.

12. (original) The device according to claim 11, wherein the at least one transverse pin is a groove pin or a clamping pin and is comprised of hardened material.

13. (canceled)